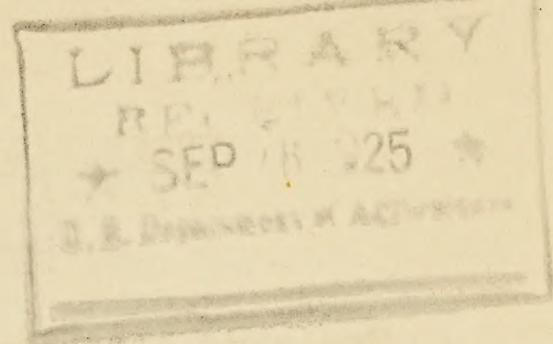


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service
Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit

UNDERFEEDING IS UNECONOMICAL

A modelled booth exhibit showing the importance and profit of proper feeding for dairy cows.

Specifications

Floor space - - - - - 10' front,
2' 3" deep.
Wall space- - - - - None
Shipping weight - - - - - 525 lbs.
Electrical requirements - - - - None.

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How It Looks

Two very lifelike cut-out cows in an imitation pasture take up the space in this booth. By reading the text on the center section one will find that the two cows are one and the same cow. The cow at the left shows her appearance at a time when she was underfed. She is shown at the right at a time when she was properly fed.

The side sections contain text showing the production, cost of feed, and income over cost of feed, for the underfed and well-fed cow.

The booth is 10 ft. across the front, 2 ft. 3 in. deep, and 7 ft. 9 in. high.

What It Tells

This exhibit tells the story of a good cow that was owned by a poor dairyman. The first picture shows the condition she was in at that time. There are no figures to show how much milk and butterfat she produced, because such farmers do not keep records; but, judging from her appearance, her production must have been extremely low.

A good dairyman came along one day, saw this cow, bought her, took her home, and gave her good feed and care. Note the results! She began at once to pick up in appearance and in production. Her new owner placed her on a first-class pasture during the entire summer, and all winter long she had an abundance of alfalfa hay and corn silage, and she was fed grain according to production. She was housed in a clean, comfortable, well-lighted, well-ventilated barn, and she was treated kindly.

Like all good cows she responded generously to such feed and care. In one year she produced 723 pounds of butterfat. They know her record now, every year, because her new owner, like most good dairymen, keeps production and feed cost records of his cows.

Such records always tell the same story--that it pays to keep good cows and feed them well.

In one cow-testing association, the herd that ate the least in dollars worth of feed per cow produced the least milk, produced the least butterfat, and had the lowest average income over cost of feed. In that same association the herd that ate the most in dollars worth of feed per cow produced the most milk, produced the most butterfat, and had the highest average income over cost of feed.

Average per cow for one year.

	Herd No. 1	Herd No. 2
Feed cost	\$33.41	\$60.40
Milk	3026 pounds	7202 pounds
Butterfat	133 pounds	355 pounds
Income over cost of feed	\$16.36	\$105.00

Compared with herd No. 1, herd No. 2 ate almost twice as much feed per cow, produced almost 2-1/2 times as much milk, almost 3 times as much butterfat, and returned more than 6 times as much income over cost of feed. We do not know what herd No. 1 would have done if it had been fed as much as herd No. 2, but we do know that herd No. 2 was a good herd and that it paid to feed that good herd well.

Where To Get Information

The following publications may be obtained free of charge from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

Farmers' Bulletin 743 - Feeding Dairy Cows

Farmers' Bulletin 1336 - Feeding and Care of Calves

Farmers' Bulletin 578 - Making and Feeding Silage

Farmers' Bulletin 1446 - Cow Testing Associations

Farmers' Bulletin 1069 - Relation between Production and Income

U.S.D.A. Bulletin 945 - Influence of Calcium and Phosphorus

Yearbook Separate 841 - Runts and the Remedy

Misc. Circular 12 - Handbook for Better Feeding.

